9/7/83
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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, September 1, 1983 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended August 27 totaled an estimated 17.1 billion ton-miles, 9.3 percent above the corresponding period a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 34 weeks of 1983 was an estimated 529.5 billion ton-miles, 1.0 percent below the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended August 27 totaled 384,827 cars, 6.3 percent over 1982, and 0.7 percent higher than the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were up 0.3 percent in the East, and 8.8 percent in both the South and the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1982, 15 of the 21 commodity groups were up, including nonmetallic minerals, up 44.7 percent, metallic ores, 32.6 percent, and grain, 16.7 percent. Fourteen of the 21 groups were up from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended August 20 totaled 46,459 cars, up 21.0 percent from the corresponding week of 1982, and 81,051 trailers and/or containers, 19.7 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 33 weeks of the year was 1,436,911 cars, 20.5 percent higher than last year, and 2,474,830 trailers and/or containers, up 17.1 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 8/27/83:

| | Loadings in Week ended August 27, 1983 | | Change from Corresponding Week 1982 | | | Change from Preceding Week | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cars | | Cars | Percent | | Cars | Percent |
| Grain | 30,014 | I | 4,296 | 16.7 | D | 2,158 | 6.7 |
| Other farm products | 3,233 | I | 105 | 3.4 | D | 280 | 8.0 |
| Metallic ores | 18,883 | I | 4,639 | 32.6 | I | 2,470 | 15.0 |
| Coal | 108,080 | D | 5,743 | 5.0 | D | 2,112 | 1.9 |
| Crushed stone, gravel and sand | 10,950 | I | 181 | 1.7 | I | 343 | 3.2 |
| Nonmetallic minerals | 12,663 | I | 3,914 | 44.7 | I | 137 | 1.1 |
| Grain mill products | 12,024 | I | 356 | 3.1 | D | 142 | 1.2 |
| Food and kindred products | 11,849 | D | 1,606 | 11.9 | I | 114 | 1.0 |
| Primary forest products | 14,676 | I | 473 | 3.3 | D | 42 | 0.3 |
| Lumber and wood products except furniture | 7,482 | I | 1,073 | 16.7 | I | 333 | 4.7 |
| Pulp, paper and allied products | 14,850 | D | 1,386 | 8.5 | D | 363 | 2.4 |
| Chemicals and allied products | 23,737 | I | 3,135 | 15.2 | I | 380 | 1.6 |
| Petroleum products | 4,599 | D | 462 | 9.1 | I | 80 | 1.8 |
| Stone, clay and glass products | 11,465 | I | 688 | 6.4 | I | 360 | 3.2 |
| Coke | 5,759 | I | 1,600 | 38.5 | I | 48 | 0.8 |
| Metals and products | 9,000 | I | 1,671 | 22.8 | I | 1,014 | 12.7 |
| Motor vehicles and equipment | 15,051 | I | 1,811 | 13.7 | I | 829 | 5.8 |
| Waste and scrap materials | 8,050 | I | 528 | 7.0 | D | 45 | 0.6 |
| Forwarder and shipper association traffic | 8,406 | D | 436 | 4.9 | I | 444 | 5.6 |
| All other carloads | 53,782 | I | 8,931 | 19.9 | I | 1,300 | 2.5 |
| LCL traffic | 274 | D | 1,016 | 78.8 | I | 12 | 4.6 |
| Total Cars Loaded | 384,827 | I | 22,752 | 6.3 | I | 2,722 | 0.7 |
| Corresponding week of 1982 | 362,075 | | | | | | |

| | 1983 | 1982 | % Change |
|---|---|---|---|
| Total Cars Loaded (34 weeks) | 12,056,431 | 12,538,876 | D 3.8 |
| Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions): | | | |
| 33 weeks ended August 20 | 512.4 | 519.1 | D 1.3 |
| Week ended August 27 | 17.1 | 15.6 | I 9.3 |
| 34 weeks cumulative | 529.5 | 534.8 | D 1.0 |

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